

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE

1. AT UN OPI PRESS BRIEFING JUNE 26 ALLANA, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP FOR CHILE, BRIEFED NEWSMEN. SUMMARY OF BRIEFING NOTED BELOW. NOTE ALLANA DENIAL IN LAST PARA OF STATEMENTS COMING FROM PAKISTANI PRESS SOURCES THAT, ACCORDING TO CHILE MISSION HERE, QUOTED HIM AS SAYING PURPOSE OF STUDY GROUP WAS TO "CONFIRM" VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE. CHILEAN MISSION HERE SAYS THAT THESE ALLEGED STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN SEIZED UPON BY MEMBERS OF GOC OPPOSED TO CHILE'S ACCEPTING WORKING GROUP TO SUPPORT THEIR CASE.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

QUOTE:

ALLANA/CHILE PRESS BRIEFING
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MR. ALLANA, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON CHILE, AND MARC SCHREIBER BRIEFED NEWSMEN ON THE FORTHCOMING VISITING MISSION TO CHILE. HE REVIEWED THE SITUATION NOTING THAT THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS SHOWED CONSIDERABLE CONCERN AT THE SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1974 ABOUT THE PROBLEM IN CHILE, COMPLAINTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

IN THE 29TH SESSION BY
RESOLUTION REFERRED THE MATTER
BACK TO THE COMMISSION FOR INVESTIGATION. AT THE BEGINNING OF 1975 THE 30TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION INSCRIBED CHILE AS A SEPARATE ITEM ON THE AGENDA. AS A RESULT OF INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS THE COMMISSION BY RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS APPOINTED A WORKING GROUP OF FIVE INCLUDING ALLANA AS CHAIRMAN TO VISIT CHILE AND THEN SUBMIT A PROGRESS REPORT TO THE COMMISSION, THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND WILDHEIM. THE WORKING GROUP HELD ITS FIRST MEETING IN GENEVA MAY 1975 AND ADOPTED RULES OF PROCEDURE, AND AGREED ON TERMS OF REFERENCE AND TO TAKE EVIDENCE FROM PERSONS WHO WISHED TO BE PRESENT. IT WAS AGREED THAT NO PRESS STATEMENTS WOULD BE MADE ON THE SITUATION PREVAILING IN CHILE UNTIL THE COMMISSION IS THROUGH WITH ITS INVESTIGATION. HE SAID THE SITUATION THERE IN THE VISIT NEXT MONTH WILL BE DONE ON THE BASIS OF AN OPEN MIND, THAT THEY WILL REFLECT THE TRUTH OF THE SITUATION AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH. THE VISITING MISSION WILL BE COMPOSED OF ALLANA, ECUADOR AMBASSADOR LEOPOLDO BENITES, PROFESSOR FELIX MERCORA, (AUSTRIAN LAST YEAR'S CHAIRMAN OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION; A SUPREME COURT JUSTICE FROM SENEGAL, AND A WOMAN FROM SIERRA LEONE. MARC SCHREIBER HEAD OF THE UN SECRETARIAT HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE WILL ALSO GO ALONG WITH TWO OTHERS OF THAT STAFF. THEY WILL MEET PRIOR TO GOING TO CHILE IN LIMA FOR THREE OR FOUR DAYS, THEN GO TO SANTIAGO JULY 10 AND STAY THROUGH JULY 28 RETURNING TO CARACAS FOR FINAL CONSULTATION.

IN THE Q&A ALLANA TAGGED AS UTTER LIES SOME MISQUOTES ATTRIBUTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO HIM IN A PAKISTAN NEWSPAPER. HE STRESSED AGAIN THEY GO WITH AN OPEN MIND TO CHILE RATHER THAN ACCEPT PRESS

REPORTS IN RECENT MONTHS ON THE SITUATION THERE. HE SAID THEY HAD BEEN INTERVIEWING CHILEAN EXILES IN RECENT MONTHS AS PART OF

THE OVERALL STUDY. HE SAID THE GROUP IS PERFECTLY

PREPARED TO MEET MEMBERS OF THE PRESS HERE OR IN CHILE
AT ANY TIME. HE SAID THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT HAS ASSURED
THE VISITING MISSION OF FULLEST COOPERATION AND ACCESS
TO ANYONE THEY WANT TO INTERVIEW. UNQUOTE.
BENNETT

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